

29 January 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 29 January 1969

DD/I related that yesterday's NSC Review Group meeting on the Middle East paper was somewhat disorganized. The Defense representative, Paul Warnke, felt that all of the options were not covered, but this matter was eventually resolved. CIA's contribution was essentially to bring the paper into relationship with our most recent Middle East Estimate. Mr. Kissinger and General Goodpaster alternated chairing the meeting due to the President's calls to Mr. Kissinger.

DD/I noted the completion of an OCI memorandum on Biafra relief, and the Director suggested that it be distributed.

Godfrey noted that Josef Smrkovsky has stepped down from his post as head of the Czech National Assembly in order to undergo surgery and that Dubcek has been out of sight recently. He observed that this may be their way of easing current tensions.



Godfrey noted the difficulties he is having in coordinating an Agency/State paper on the technical uses of nuclear energy.

DD/S reported that the work force arrived at 2:30 a.m. this morning in order to cope with icy conditions surrounding the building.

DD/S briefed on DOD utilization of a Vietnamese language training program developed by the Office of Training in cooperation with DD/S&T. He noted that this self-teaching method has reduced training time from 12-15 weeks to 4-5 weeks.

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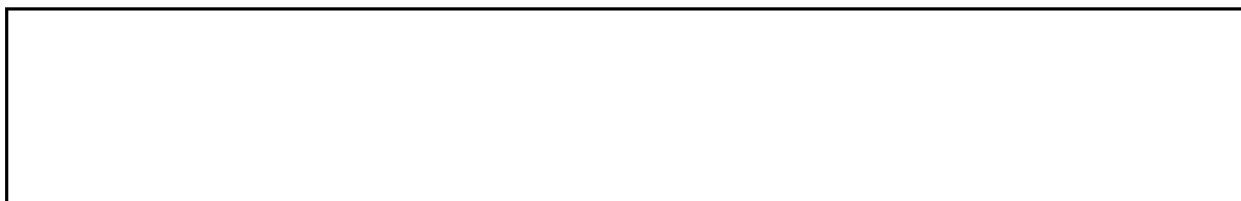
Carver reported that Mr. Kissinger is taking a fresh look at statistics on Viet Cong control of hamlets. He welcomed this review in light of the confusion which could follow another Tet offensive.

Carver observed that two of the twenty-eight questions on the Vietnam memorandum involve judgments with respect to the quality and composition of US/GVN troop mix. He observed that complying with these questions would not appear to be within the competence of the Agency. The DD/I and the Director concurred in our simply footnoting the questions to that effect.

Maury reported that George Murphy called yesterday, saying that the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy will organize itself later this week, after which it would appreciate an Agency briefing. The Director concurred in scheduling a briefing provided it would be undertaken no earlier than late next week.

Maury reported that Bill Spell of Senator Stennis' staff was helpful on the problems created by Senator Stephen Young. Spell reported that Senator Stennis has drafted a Senate Armed Services Committee response to inquiries regarding allegations of CIA responsibility for the Pueblo incident.

DD/P noted receipt of an excellent report which is being disseminated on the results of the Warsaw CEMA meeting and plans for a follow-up meeting of all First Secretaries of Communist Party attendees.



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The Director lauded yesterday's performance of [redacted] before the Nuclear Intelligence Panel. He asked that the DD/S&T convey his personal appreciation for a job well done.

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The Director alerted the DD/P to current efforts toward reopening diplomatic relations with Cambodia. He mentioned that, according to Najeeb Halaby, arrangements are now firm to construct a hotel in Cambodia.

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The Director mentioned that he received a call this morning from a newspaperman who stated that Dean Moor and George Carver are not always in agreement on their respective assessments of the Vietnam situation. Following a brief discussion of current propensities to place "Vietnamese watchers" in various intellectual pigeonholes, the Director urged that appropriate steps be taken to avoid giving outsiders any reason to question the objectivity of Agency reporting and analysis.

*The Director noted that he saw Senator Baker last night and that the Senator would welcome a briefing and expressed his willingness to respond to Agency suggestions as to what other senators might be included in the briefing. The Director asked Maury to study the matter, suggested that Senator Brooke might be included, and asked that Senator Baker be contacted sometime within the next week.

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L. K. White

*Extracted and sent to action officer

Late Item

Carver requested the Director's concurrence in distributing The Significance of Chinese Road Building in Laos because it has some pertinence to the twenty-eight questions. The Director concurred.